

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Masahiro MACHIDA and Tatsuhiko SAITOH

Application No.: New US Patent Application

Filed: March 19, 2001

Docket No.: 108973

For: OPERATING METHOD AND DEVICE, AND IMAGE PROCESSING APPARATUS  
USING THE SAMEJ1040 U.S. PTO  
09/810534  
03/19/01#2  
5-16-01  
MINFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENTDirector of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the reference(s) listed on the attached PTO-1449. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each reference is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the reference(s) be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

- ☒ 1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (a) within three months of the U.S. filing date of this non-CPA application, OR (b) before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits in the present application. No certification or fee is required.
- ☒ 2. Relevance of the non-English language reference is discussed in the present specification.
- ☒ 3. An English-language Abstract of the non-English language reference is attached hereto.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: March 19, 2001

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Form PTO-1449 (REV. 8-83)		US Dept. of Commerce PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTY DOCKET NO. 108973		APPLICATION NO. New US Patent Application	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  (Use several sheets if necessary)				APPLICANTS Masahiro MACHIDA and Tatsuhiko SAITOH			
				FILING DATE March 19, 2001			

11040 U.S. PTO  
09/810534  
03/19/01

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB CLASS
		JP A 9-114902 (w/ abstract)	05/02/1997	Japan		

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)						

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.